

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Mel Evans <101366.3072@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [5530] 49'ers ---Hola amigos!
Message-ID: <961203202556_101366.3072_JHP67-2@CompuServe.COM>

Hello gang,

Thought you might like to know that "QU-R-PE", the quarterly mag. of the EA club carries a full schematics and PCB template in this issue.

Does this mean a rash of 40 metres activities in and around EA, I ask myself?
Probably.....

72 and 73 de Mel
Edinburgh, Scotland UK
Home of the last HW9

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Russ1031@aol.com
Subject: [5511] A Preview of the Spartan Sprint Results
Message-ID: <961203113200_1252991213@emout04.mail.aol.com>

This is a quick preview of the results from Monday's Spartan Sprint. The full report will be posted on Thursday.

40 meters was bizarre. In most of the country, it was completely dead. (Yours truly thought that his Sierra had croaked.) In a few places, it was reasonably productive. For example, K10J, in Texas, had 18 Qs on 40.

80 meters was the real learning experience. My three watts captured W3TS (who was running one watt) and KS4L--pretty good for 80 meters at 6:30 in the evening. Overall, 80 meters was excellent, but we just didn't have enough operators putting their toes in the water. I'm glad we decided to experiment with 80 meters this time, and we'll definitely include both 80 and 40 for the remainder of the winter.

Stand by for the full account on Thursday.

Russ Carpenter, AA7QU, McKenzie River, Oregon
ARS #1

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996

From: lve1@inel.gov (Larry V East)
Subject: [5515] AEA For Sale -- A. R. Newsline comments
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19961203173239.284f7f50@eloi>

The following items are from Amateur Radio Newsline report 1007 released on Friday, November 29, 1996 and are copyrighted by Amateur Radio Newsline (see their published copyright notice for details). The opinions expressed are those of the News Line author -- but I tend to agree.

AEA FOR SALE

One of the few domestic U.S. ham equipment manufacturers appears to be headed out of business unless it can find a buyer. Advanced Electronic Applications Inc., considered by experts to be among the strongest of the ham radio peripheral equipment suppliers is up for sale and is no longer handling customer service requests.

(...snip...)

THE FUTURE OF HAM EQUIPMENT SUPPLY

The apparent failure of AEA is literally sending shock waves throughout the ham radio supply industry. This is because AEA was considered to be one of the most financially sound of the U.S. ham radio equipment suppliers. What follows is our analysis of the situation.

The Newsline team headed by editor Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF has been working on this story the past week. Here are the conclusions:

Why did AEA fail? Some industry analysts say its' possibly because of the failure of no-code to attract the kind of business that was expected.

Even with up to 4,000 new hams being licensed every month, overall sales of all ham gear is way down. Most newcomers are entering the hobby through the code free Technician Class license. Their single purchase is the lowest priced two meter FM handheld or mobile they can find. With very few of these newcomers bothering to upgrade, that \$200 to \$300 purchase is the only money they are spending on ham radio.

But what about the pre-no-code hoopla about a data communications revolution in ham radio. The public relations campaign said there would be tens of thousands of computer literate people coming to ham radio to communicate by packet and other keyboard modes?

Simply, this has not developed. Probably due to low cost access to the internet emerged at about the same time. Data oriented people have found

the word wide web more to their liking. They already own a computer. They can communicate at 28 kilobaud instead of an agonizingly slow 1200 baud. There is a limitless choice of entertainment and information available. Most of all, there is no study, testing or license is required.

As a result, most of those coming into amateur radio these days are hams who want to talk locally using FM voice. Hams who are content to spend their entire Amateur Radio careers sitting on one repeater, talking to the same people day after day.

For manufacturers who specialize primarily in data based ham radio communications equipment the lack of interest by newcomers is bad news. For the ham radio supply business as a whole, means taking a long look inward to see if the industry itself can survive.

The big question is will the ham radio industry try to again organize and work together? It has attempted this twice. Both times the loose knit organizations have dissolved into oblivion. Now we ask, will the departure of AEA be enough to bring the ham radio industry together, once again? The Miami Tropical Hamboree next February will probably be the place where the answer becomes known.

End of Newsline excerpt.

For what it's worth -- the packet network (such as it was) is all but dead here in Eastern Idaho. Outdated technology??

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: N9DD@aol.com
Subject: [5469] ARCI Sprint de N9DD
Message-ID: <961202193504_232201399@emout03.mail.aol.com>

Hi Gang

I had a great time in the sprint. It gave me the opportunity to dust off a couple QRP kits that I haven't used for a while. I was prepared to try 15 Mtrs with an old HW7, but heard no signals there at all. I worked enough on 20 to say I was there. 40 Meters was my main band. I actually got to give up my usual hunt and pounce technique for a while and worked quite a few in a row answering my CQ. 80 was alot like 20 for me - I made a few QSOs, but nothing to write home about.

Here's the rundown:

Band	Rig	QSOs	Points	SPCs
80	NW8020	9	45	8
40	NorCal 40A	36	159	19
20	NN1G MkI	5	19	3

I worked K10J on all three bands. AE4IC had a great signal and I worked him on 80 and 40 Meters. K0FRP is an awesome operator. When I grow up, I want to be just like him. I'm looking forward to the next QRP contest - see you there!

Tom N9DD
South Bend, IN

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Steve Slavsky <sslavsky@CapAccess.org>
Subject: [5540] Comments on the Internet
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.961203164954.14247A-1000000@cap1.capaccess.org>

I think Bruce has just about wrapped up the facts here. Ham radio is a hobby where people can communicate, and computers are now a hobby where people can communicate. I look at it as an evolutionary form of communications. I tried Channel 72 on the undernet last nite and there were 3 of us on discussing QRP. It has the potential to be better than the list in some ways - instant responses - just like on the air. The downside is that you keep it short - just like on CW, so no page long tech info.

There are over 1,000 of us on QRP-L right now. For me, it totally rejuvenated my interest in hamming and I try to get on the air at least a few hours a week. I believe each form has its own place and eventually, new technology will win out. In fifty years I doubt many people will still use CW. SSB may be gone also, replaced by some digital voice thing that doesn't even exist. In fact, cheap and reliable satellite communications with personal units may render radio as we know it obsolete. But that's progress. We are free to use AM and take up 6 to 10 Khz, FM on 10 meters and video higher up. All that will disappear over time.

I'm the same age as Bruce (48) and never could have imagined (other than science fiction) the things we have now when I was 10. We should just have fun doing what we like now. If we can recruit new hams, that's fine, but, with all the computer technology out there, it sort of reminds me of the guys still using horse drawn artillery and cavalry at the start of WW II. We'll move on to something else, but all the handwringing and cajoling in the world isn't going to bring back aging modes of communication.

Hope to see you all on the air, on QRP-L and elsewhere on the internet (maybe even in person - nah, never happen). Boy, I miss Nils' comments - he could really go to town on this issue. Have a healthy and happy holiday season and get them foxes.

72/73,

Steve, N4EUK
Reston, VA

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Ken Lopez <kjllopez@earthlink.net>
Subject: [5493] Digitrex 20m transceiver Sold
Message-ID: <32A3E8A1.422F@earthlink.net>

The Digitrex 20m transceiver is spoken for. Thanks for all the interest.

73, Ken, N6TZV

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Dan Keen <70731.722@compuserve.com>
Subject: [5528] duplicate calls
Message-ID: <961203201916_70731.722_EHM33-1@CompuServe.COM>

I got this info over on Compuserve: a ham was starting to receive a few QSL cards from unworked stations. He called the FCC directly about this and they told him the reason was that two hams were given same new vanity callsign, and that the other guy was sent a letter with a replacement vanity callsign, and that so now the strange QSL's should stop pretty soon.

FCC told him that his was not the only case. That there were a few more cases of two hams getting the same new vanity. Apparently not more than two hams

recieved any new callsign. And also informed him that the guys whose callsigns have to now be changed again would recieve FCC letters of explanation along with their replacement vanity. But there were no letters being sent to guys like him who recieved a duplicate callsign, but get to keep it.

Dan

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "William R. Moore" <wr.moore@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [5482] Fox on Tuesday
Message-ID: <32A38A61.6CA9@worldnet.att.net>

Greetings!

I'll be your fox tomorrow evening, running about 4 watts from my OHR 400 and my more-or-less-random length horizontal loop (about 350 feet of wire). I'll be hanging out around 7.037 MHz, 0200-0400 12/4/96 UTC. That's Tuesday evening in the USA, 9:00-11:00 EST.

I have personally had very bad luck/propagation with other foxes, so maybe I'll help some of you fill in the gap if you've had a similar experience. I'm really looking forward to it, so do your worst!

73/72,
Randy, KS4L
Huntsville, AL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "Bruce Milne" <wb2qap@i3.net>
Subject: [5497] FS Argo 556, mike, 80 - 10 modules
Message-ID: <199612031224.HAA17668@ns1.i3.net>

December 3, 1996 7:20 am

I have for sale a Ten Tec Argo 556 in mint condition (no scratches) with Ten Tec mike, and 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter modules. Price is \$435 firm plus shipping. Package sale only.

Phone (941) - 637 - 1693 or e-mail wb2qap@i3.net

Thanks for reading. 72 de Bruce, WB2QAP ARCI #5639

Bruce Milne
wb2qap@i3.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Mike Boice <kd0fx@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [5468] FS: Yaesu FT-50 HT
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961203002755.0067cf34@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>

This didn't seem to go through the first time, so here goes again.

I apologize for the non-HF qrp message, but I really need to sell this to pay off some holiday-related expenses.

Yaesu FT-50 HT - new in July, excellent condition. I rarely used it. This is the new series of "ultra compact" dual banders.

Freq coverage: xmit: 144-148, 430 - 450 MHz
rcv: 76-200, 300-400, 400-540, 590-999
(cellular blocked on 800) MHz

Batteries: FNB-41 9.6V 600 mAH - gives 5 W out
FNB-15: holds 4 AA batteries of your choosing.

Comes with standard 117 VAC 15 hour charger, dual band duckie antenna & soft carry case (\$25 option when new)

This is a sweet little unit, but like I said, I rarely used - maybe 10 or 12 times. It's built to military specifications, has super loud audio, has 112 memories, alpha-numeric display, DCS & CTCSS encoder, receive and transmit battery saver modes, adjustable auto-power off, and a gazillion more things. An optional replacement keypad gives additional features like voice mail & paging. Software is also available to completely and easily program all the memories, offsets, power levels, etc.

Purchased in late July from AES for \$400, now only \$325 & I ship in U.S.

Contact me directly via email at kd0fx@worldnet.att.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996

From: Mike Boice <kd0fx@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [5483] FS: Yaesu FT-50 HT
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961202173723.0066f8f8@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>

I apologize for the non-HF qrp message, but I really need to sell this to pay off some holiday-related expenses.

Yaesu FT-50 HT - new in July, excellent condition. I rarely used it. This is the new series of "ultra compact" dual banders.

Freq coverage: xmit: 144-148, 430 - 450 MHz
rcv: 76-200, 300-400, 400-540, 590-999
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Purchased in late July from AES for \$400, now only \$325 & I ship in U.S.

Contact me directly via email at kd0fx@worldnet.att.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "Mike White (mpw)" <mpw@sequent.com>
Subject: [5510] FS: QRP+
Message-ID: <32A45262@ushqgw.sequent.com>

For sale: QRP+ (original unit - not the "++") less than 1 year old - MINT condition.

Used ~3 times - never taken into the field - non-smoker owner.
With microphone.

Asking: \$450

please reply to: mpw@sequent.com

Home Phone: 715/832-7860

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996

From: William.Redfearn.CMWDRO1@nt.com

Subject: [5532] FS: Ten-Tec Omni D & more

Message-ID: <"5468 Tue Dec 3 06:52:29 1996"@nt.com>

For Sale:

Ten-Tec Omni D, series B and 252 Power Supply

VFO control, digital display

160 - 10 Meters, 30 meter receive

0-100 watts output (adjustable)

2.4 Khz, 1.8 Khz, and 500 Hz crystal filters

audio CW filter, audio notch

Full break-in on CW

RIT,VOX,RF gain

Everything in good condition, some slight scratches.

Everything works, good beginner's rig.

\$425.00 + shipping USA

Standard 508A dual band mini HT

2 meters and 440

100 milliwatts output

runs on 2 AA batteries

with earphone mike, Comet SMA antenna, extra batteries,

SMA to BNC adaptor cable, original rubber duck, and manual (no box).

good to excellent condition, little use, works fine.

\$280.00 + shipping USA

Yaesu FV-101Z Remote VFO

with manual, slight scratches on case, front panel clean.

\$50.00 + shipping USA

For local pickup: These will be at the Greensboro, NC Hamfest
7 Dec 1996.

73 - Dave.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Ken Lopez <kjlopez@earthlink.net>
Subject: [5487] G3TSO Transceiver
Message-ID: <32A3C606.736F@earthlink.net>

In the latest edition of the RSGB Radio Communication Handbook (Very comprehensive and highly recommended), on page 7.41, is a construction article for an hf transceiver, all band,ssb/cw, 10-20W. It looks very interesting, but complicated.

Do any of our UK subscribers know of this project, or any one who has successfully built it? Are there kits or boards available? Are the parts easily procured? Just curious...

73, Ken, N6TZV

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: n4so@juno.com (CHARLES K BROWN)
Subject: [5476] ham-homebrew subscribing
Message-ID: <19961202.175636.4439.3.n4so@juno.com>

Address for ham-homebrew is:

listserv@ucsd.edu

correct command is:

Add <e-mail address> ham-homebrew

I have saved a file on it called UCSD
if you have trouble subscribing.

Ken Brown, N4SO
QTH Near Mobile, AL
QRP-L #622
n4so@juno.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [5529] Internet vs. Radio, round two
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9612031523.E11204-0100000@w3eax.umd.edu>

AGain, we come down to the fact that the Internet is for the masses.
Amateur NEVER WAS and NEVER WILL BE. Cell phones, Internet, cheap
telephone service, etc...they ALL have served, in their own time, to
<<PURIFY>> amateur radio.

Our numbers may be getting older and/or smaller, but the young'uns who
ENJOY electronics - like me, age 27, in radio 12 years - are the ones
getting into it.

Thank you Internet for making Ham Radio more fun, and pulling the
"not-so-dedicated" away from something they only marginally wanted to do
anyway - saving it for those of us who do it because we like it.

* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 *
*** 6m 75 grids worked on 8 watts *** HF 138 cfmd * QRP-L #147 ***
** QRP ARCI #9054 ** DXCC/WAS/WAC *** 100% dipole powered HF/6m **
* 301-549-1022 h / 301-982-1015 w *** 145.490- 147.225+ PL 156.7 *

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "Mike Siegel" <ki6pr@msn.com>
Subject: [5518] IRC Channel
Message-ID: <UPMAIL05.199612031803360223@msn.com>

You guys want an IRC channel for QRP? What's wrong with 7.040?

C'mon, get a grip!

72/3, Mike KI6PR
El Rancho R.F, CA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: ed.welch@cheaha.com (ED WELCH)
Subject: [5478] Loop antenna.....advice, consent, experience....
Message-ID: <8CD64CF.0004000CD7.uuout@cheaha.com>

I'm a relative new ham (licensed back in July of this year. Lately I
have become interested in qrp. Well, after contacting KB2WDU in

New Jersey using my Norcal 40a at about 2 watts and him kicking back at me with his 4 watts I was inspired to do some antenna work for my qrp rig.

I had been curious about putting up a loop for 40m so's me and my trusty Zebco 33 and grape-sized lead weight headed to the "antenna tree". After eyeballing the old pecan tree I decided to configure the antenna to be broadside to the west and east....hopefully to give me a shot at the western fox-hunts and maybe some European/Asian/African DX. Anyhow, I tested the wind, reared back, and cut loose with the lead. First shot wasn't so hot, but the second shot went gracefully over and around the tree, catching enough branches so that the final form would be more or less circular. After pulling the halyard back through the branches, tying the insulated wire to it and pulling it back over the limbs I had the basic structure pretty well completed.

Then came the matching section and tuning. I used a piece of RG6 that, from PL-259 to PL-259, is 28' long and attached to RG-58 going in to the shack. The feedpoint is situated at about the 07:30 position and is only about 8' from the ground. The final form of the loop ended up being a flat-bottomed upside-down eggshape.

Checking it with an MFJ259 analyser the novice band appears to have an SWR of around 1.1:1 throughout it. The resistance reading varies greatly during a scan of the band. Starting from 7.10mhz at 46 ohms the resistance drops to 40 ohms at 7.15mhz. If I tune the analyser down to 7.0mhz I get a reading of 48 ohms but the SWR has jumped up to something like 1.25:1. If I tune up to around 7.20mhz I get an SWR reading of 1.25:1, but the resistance drops to 38-37 ohms.

Are these variations of resistance about right? The 46 ohm resistance is close to the target at 7.10mhz, but it could be better. If I shorten the matching section a tad will this bring the resistance up to the 50 ohm mark? If so, approximately how much would need trimming? I tried moving the feedpoint up several feet but the SWR seemed to get worse so I lowered the feedpoint back down.

As it would have it, since I've strung the antenna up the BC QRM has been terrible!....Nighttime is normally when I have a chance to get on the air. Early this morning the antenna sounded great, several signals scattered throughout the band.....all else was quiet...just as I've heard about loops. Only bad thing was I had to go to work so I didn't get to try it out.

Band seems dead tonight except for the BC stations, though shortly I'm going to crank up the TS450 just to be sure the Norcal is working ok....besides, since I built the Norcal I haven't turned the Kenwood on, I guess I better see if *it* still works.<g>

I will be on the air tonight.
(the LOCAL date is December 3, 1996).

I will operate "near" 7.112 or 7.122
(as conditions warrant). I will be
on the air from 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
New York time:

Tuesday, December 3rd (local date)
7:30 - 9:30 pm local (New York) time
0030 - 0230 UTC
frequency; "near" 7.112+- or 7.122+-
QTH South Bend, Indiana
QRP-L# 642
MFJ 9040 at 5 watts

Barry Keating
WD4MSM

ps My December 19th date for "foxing" will
take place much later in the evening.

Professor Barry P Keating
phone: 219-631-6370
Jesse H. Jones Professor, Chairman
fax: 219-631-5255
Department of Finance and Business Economics
e-mail:
keating.1@nd.edu
226 McGlinn Hall, College of Business
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: jayboy@psnw.com (Jay & Jackie)
Subject: [5471] Need small keyer
Message-ID: <199612030052.QAA16962@sierra.psnw.com>

Just finishing up an NW8020 and would like to put a small keyer inside.
Used the KC-1 with my NorCal 40A, but have heard mentioned something called
a TiCK ?? Any suggestions?
73 Jay WA6JDB

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: chas@nmaa.org (Charles Kadesch)
Subject: [5484] Need SPRAT #81 Article
Message-ID: <32A3F1A1.7CE2@nmaa.org>

If anyone having SPRAT Issue NR 81 would be willing to part with it or a copy of the article on "The Contester" receiver therein (by PA0RDT), please advise. I would gladly reimburse you.
chas@nmaa.org

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Mike Duke <gmduke@oscar.teclink.net>
Subject: [5472] NEW CALL FOR WB5ADC
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.3.95.961202193159.29461A-100000@oscar.teclink.net>

What a Thanksgiving treat!

I was chatting with Dennis, K3ETS, in order to give him a Mississippi contact for qrp WAS when he said: "Did you know that you aren no longer WB5ADC? ... You are now K5XU."

What a way to learn that the program started up again on the 26th.

It was my fifth choice; a great cw call. I'm still loosing it regularly on voice modes.

73

Mike Duke, K5XU, Jackson, MS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Allen Jones <ajones@adsnet.com>
Subject: [5506] Novice 90 Antenna
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961203150840.006907e4@adsnet.com>

All this talk about end fed wire antennas brought to mind an antenna that was described back in the 50's or early 60's ARRL Handbook or perhaps the ARRL Antenna Handbook. I think it was called the Novice 90 and was for use on 80 and 40M. It was 90 ft of wire end fed through an LC network. Like

all end fed antennas it required a counterpoise or good ground system. As I remember the cap was placed in series with the antenna on 40 to electrically shorten it and the inductor was placed in series on 80. I tried to find the article in a 1957 handbook but was unsuccessful. Any old timers out there remember this antenna article?

72/3 de Allen, W9DZ
f/k/a K9DZE

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: James Parsons <k5rov1@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [5475] NWQRP net...
Message-ID: <19961203025523.AAA15721@LOCALNAME>

Bill, N7MFB

I wonder what kind of conditions the net operated under this evening? I could not hear a single station on 10123. I called a few times but could not raise anyone. It was not a good night for QRP on 30 meters. In fact, I only heard one CW station, and one very strong spanish speaking SSB station on the whole band.

73...
Jim, K5ROV

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Mel Evans <101366.3072@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [5531] QRP--a noun?
Message-ID: <961203202538_101366.3072_JHP67-1@CompuServe.COM>

Somebody asked if QRP was a noun.

NO, it's a way of life. (and a very gentlemanly and ladylike way of life)

72 and 73 de Mel
Edinburgh, Scotland UK
Home of the last HW9

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996

From: Jim "B." Hendrix <jhendrix@usa.net>
Subject: [5499] Retrieving old archives
Message-ID: <MAPI.Id.0016.0068656e647269783437443830303033@MAPI.to.RFC822>

Help!

I've been trying to retrieve the daily archive for Sept. 1, '96. Have sent the following command:

GET QRP-L/ARCHIVES-OLD/1996 960901

But I get a return message that "archives-old is not a valid path".

What am I doing wrong? I know, it must be as plain as the nose on my face, but I haven't seen it yet.

Thanks,
Jim AB5VI

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Dan Keen <70731.722@compuserve.com>
Subject: [5526] Shorthand
Message-ID: <961203195622_70731.722_EHM35-1@CompuServe.COM>

Anybody have any opinion on whether it would be worthwhile to go to night school for a semester and learn shorthand? In order to speed up copying away from a mill...

It seems like back in High School the _commercial_ students' class (mainly girls) in this was subject was called Gregg or some such thing?

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: svecbrdk@well.com (L.Svec,W.Burdick)
Subject: [5485] Sierra tech note: VFO harmonics, birdies, and varactor diodes
Message-ID: <199612030546.VAA16462@mh1.well.com>

[Doug: This may make a useful QRPP article.]

On some Sierras, both NorCal and Wilderness, you can hear a birdie (spurious signal) when the receiver is tuned to 18.073MHz (17m module). It is usually very weak, but the long leads required to connect the VFO to a KC1 or KC2 can make it much louder. While this birdie rarely caused me any trouble, I decided to look into it. I'll explain where it comes from and how to nearly eliminate it--at least in my case! Please let me know if you

try this.

What I found was that the birdie was originating from the 6th harmonic of the VFO! (It doesn't take much energy in harmonics to cause a birdie, given the very small signals the receiver is capable of hearing.) With a long wire lead (antenna!) connected to the VFO, this harmonic gets past the VFO's low-pass filter and goes straight into the receive mixer.

Here's how the birdie is created. At an operating frequency of 18.073MHz, the premix signal frequency is $18.073 + 4.915 = 22.988\text{MHz}$. This premix signal is in turn the result of mixing a 26.000MHz crystal oscillator signal with the VFO, which must be set for about 3.012MHz. The 6th harmonic of the VFO is now at the same frequency you're tuned to: about 18.073MHz. (Since it's an upper harmonic of the VFO, it "tunes faster" than normal signals--a dead giveaway.)

But why did I have **any** significant energy in this high-order harmonic?

As it turns out, when I designed the VFO, I connected the RIT varactor diode (D8) to the highest-amplitude point in the VFO circuit: the junction of L7 and C52/C53/C54. As I discovered last night, the AC voltage at this point is 15 to 20V p-p, much higher than you'd like to see across a varactor diode at any DC bias level.

I happened to be reading about varactor diode frequency multipliers the other day, and realized that **this** was where the 6th harmonic energy was coming from -- not to mention 5th, 4th, etc! Varactor diodes introduce harmonic distortion of the waveform since their capacitance varies with the AC waveform as well as the DC bias. What to do?

The Cure

Killing the birdie was actually quite simple: I had to move the varactor diode to a different point in the circuit where the AC voltage was much lower. In this case, all I had to do was cut the trace from D8-anode to L7, then reconnect D8-anode to the other side of L7, i.e. the junction of L7 and C56. The AC voltage at this point is much lower -- about one third that on the other side of L7. (This is because the impedance is much lower at this point.)

I had to make two other changes, since the varactor was now connected at a point where its capacitance had less of an impact on the total capacitance in the VFO circuit. First, I changed R33 (R19 on the NorCal Sierra) to 10K instead of 47k. This brought the RIT range back up to about 3kHz. Next, I had to add an additional 22pF across C53 to get the VFO back to the correct frequency range. Any kind of small capacitor will do; I used an NPO ceramic.

This modification will likely be made permanent in the next revision of the Sierra. Chances are it will improve both receive and transmit spectral purity, although I haven't put a spectrum analyzer to it yet.

If you have a different rig that includes an RIT circuit, you might want to measure the voltage on the varactor to make sure that this isn't a potential problem. Be sure to use a hi-Z scope probe or RF probe so you don't load down the L-C circuit too much.

73,
Wayne
N6KR

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "W. D. (Doc) Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
Subject: [5502] Source for SLV Pole?
Message-ID: <961203042416_70511.3041_IHD62-2@CompuServe.COM>

Gang:

Seems I am always a long way behind so many of you, but here goes my question. Does anyone know a good source (they have some in-stock) for the suggested telescoping fibreglass pole for the SLV antenna (Southbend SD-20)?

I decided to construct an SLV, thinking this would be a piece of cake. Well perhaps, but I could not locate a local source for the poles. The local stores (Rochester, MN) called their suppliers, to no avail = "out of stock".

But I am *hoping* someone may either (1) know a good source, or (2) have an extra one laying around which they would sell me. How about an assist?

TKS es 72/73,
--Doc/K0EVZ ARRL QRP-L #861

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Joel Malman <malman@BBN.COM>
Subject: [5514] Spartan Sprint

Message-ID: <199612031712.MAA165540@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Conditions in Ma was just as bad as everywhere else...

All told, I managed to work 6 stations in 6 different states, all on the east coast. I started out on 80, worked 2 stations and figured that 80 was pretty bad. So I tried 40. Worked 1 station. 40 was worse than 80, so it was bad to 80. Managed to work 3 more on 80 - but that was it.

Went to bed dreaming about foxes ... There will be two tonight.

/joel wa1qvm (concord, ma)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996

From: "Gary R. Hanson" <ghanson@uts.cc.utexas.edu>

Subject: [5538] Spartan Sprint from Central Texas

Message-ID: <32A49F53.62CB@uts.cc.utexas.edu>

Hey Gang,

The Spartan Sprint last night was a challenge to say the least. I've never experienced such rapid shifts in band conditions. The most extreme example was during the last five minutes when KE6PY0 returned my CQ call at 589, I mean he was REALLY strong. By the time I finished giving him my report, the band closed down and I wasn't hearing anything...didn't even hear him come back and I'm sure he lost me. I had several that I heard come back to me and the band would fade in the middle of their report down to nothing. I must have had three or four partially completed contacts that way.

Interestingly, the propagation and skip conditions when I could hear anything were very consistent. I looked up three of the four stations and one ragchew right after the sprint and the distance was surprisingly consistent:

KC6T CA 1239 miles

W6ZH CA 1213 miles

KE6PY0 CA 1217 miles (partial contact)

K8KXK NC 1156 miles (ragchew post sprint)

It looks like my delta loop was reaching out to 1215 miles give or take about 15-20 miles. Outside that distance, no one could hear me. My other sprint contact was in Tijuana, Mexico -- XE2ELX and I'm guessing that was about 1200 to 1250 miles as well. Federico had a nice signal into Austin from the Baja penninsula.

I have encountered this on other nights as well. When I check my "mileage" on those multi-contact nights, I often find that all the contacts were within a 20 -50 mile distance range, even though scattered all over the country. When the RF "skips" it sure does so consistently, but I'm curious what goes on when the band closes up and then re-opens and then closes multiple times in a short period of time, say a couple hours time. Is the ionization layer moving up and down that much? Or are experiencing gaps or holes in those layers? What gives? Any theories out there? It sure was bouncing around alot last night.

It might make an interesting propagation study to report "skip" distances with our fox and spartan sprint results by type of antenna used. If any of you want to take the time to look up your contacts on the QRZ database, enter your zip code and report back your skip mileage by type of antenna used, I would be glad to compile it and report it back to the list. Just send me a note with the contacts, the distance, your antenna type and height above ground and I'll see what I can do with it.

Gary, KJ5VW
Austin, TX

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Bill Myers <bmyers@destin.nfds.net>
Subject: [5479] Spartan Sprint?
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19961202221738.0dcffac4@destin.nfds.net>

Hi Gang,

Was it just my area with the noise?

I spent the afternoon making a couple of mods to the 49'er, adding some connectors, and checking out the SLV. Checked out the HW-8 also, just in case. Even bought a new Lithium for the 49'er.

The band sounded okay around 0100Z, some good signals and a little noise, just enough to move the s-meter on the Icom 735 with the dipole. Sat down with the wife and rested for a short time and then went outside and set up the rigs and SLV. 0230Z rolled around and I heard one station calling on 40, around 7044, and they were calling CQ about 5 times, their call 3 times, CQ 5 times, etc. Even I kinda figured they weren't playing. Didn't hear anything else. Set up the HW-8 and checked out 3560, lots of static and a couple of really weak signals. Even brought out the RS DSP, no good either.

About 0300Z decided to come back in the house and use the Icom and dipole, figuring it was the DC receivers causing the noise. Same thing in there, lots of static and very few signals. Noise level was about a S-6 on 40 and slightly higher on 80.

Guess it just wasn't my night. I'll have to settle for the fox tomorrow.

Hope all did better than I did, no contacts...

72/73

--

Bill Myers KK4KF

FISTS#2390 QRP-L#755 ARCI#9282 scQRP#42 CQC#386

Grid EM60rk (Shalimar, FL 32579)

Snail Mail P. O. Box 178

e-mail <bmyers@destin.nfds.net>

homepage <http://destin.nfds.net/~bmyers/>

(Reptiles/Emergency Services/Amateur Radio)

CHECK OUT THE FISTS INTERNATIONAL CW CLUB U. S. HOMEPAGE

<http://n9nvv.qrp.com/~fists>

^^^^ That's N 9 N V V

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996

From: Owen Quarles <k1oj@swbell.net>

Subject: [5480] SPRINT

Message-ID: <32A3AE5D.6981@swbell.net>

Howdy from Texas! (I just love that Texican talk...)

Well the noise was 'big time bad' here but I sure had fun.

18 Qs on 40m...that's one less than last time. Maybe because of the later start time and not as much activity after the contest yesterday.

I hope to have a better antenna up for next month.

CU---OJ---K10J

prev. wa1yia

qrp-l 732

..

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996

From: Bob Marsh <bmarsh@hicom.net>

Subject: [5520] Stuff for Sale

Message-ID: <32A471BB.6574@hicom.net>

Hi Everyone,

I have the following equipment for sale/trade:

Heathkit HW-16: I replaced several caps and the rectifier diodes in the power supply, but still have the originals caps. There appears to be some older work done on it as well. The rig transmits & receives OK, but has a chirp. (I understand that's pretty common with these rigs) Cosmetically clean except for paint nicks on edges. Has copy of the manual and new tubes (from AES) in the TX. \$90.00 OBO

Heathkit HG-10 VFO: Set up for use with the HW-16. I reversed a mod that placed the matching resistors outside the case in the back. As a result, there are some extra holes in the back. Can't say what other mods may have been done, but it does work with the HW-16 OK. Looks cosmetically good. (better than the HW-16) Comes with manual copy. \$85.00 OBO

Heathkit SB-610 Station Monitor: It appears to be in good condition. I had it working (on TX) with my Kenwood TS-850. It showed the CW waveform OK. No mods & VG to excellent cosmetically. Has original manual. I'm not sure I want to sell this, since I may hook it up to my SB-301/401. If it's worth it to me, though, I'll let it go. Make me an offer.

Johnson Challenger (80 - 2 meter CW/AM TX): This rig is complete with original knobs, etc. The case is scratched and may need refinishing, and the rubber feet along with several mounting screws are missing. I replaced the power cord with another 2 conductor job and originally brought it back up with a variac. It loaded up OK on 40m (the only crystal I have in the amateur band) and I worked a few stations with it a while ago. Signal reports were OK, but I think this guy has a chirp too. It has a copy of the operators manual. \$75.00 OBO

Hallicrafters S-118 Receiver: This appears to work OK, but has a broken IF Xformer slug. (I admit it - I broke it trying to do an alignment). cosmetically it could use some work, but the front panel looks pretty good. It has a copy of the manual with it. \$15.00

Globe HG-303 Transmitter: 80 - 10 meter CW This guy looks like it fell off a truck (literally). The meter is broken, it's missing the final (a 6146), the chassis is bent and is generally in pretty bad shape. Too bad, cuz it's a nice little rig (tiny, too). I'm offering this as a parts rig unless you have more patience than me. No documentation. \$10.00

I'm looking to get a fair price for this stuff, so I'll consider any

reasonable offer. If you think they're too high, make an offer and let me know why. Prices DO NOT include shipping. I'm looking for:

Ten-Tec equipment (Tube or SS)
QRP Kits/Equipment/Rigs
2m HT modifiable for MARS Freqs
Whatever I haven't thought of yet

Thanks for the bandwidth.

73 de Bob/KB2SGM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: PaulKB8N@aol.com
Subject: [5504] Stuff FS
Message-ID: <961203095223_872547554@emout07.mail.aol.com>

Gang,

Cleaning house, and have a couple of things for sale:

TenTec model 700 hand-held microphone, used very little, with TT instruction sheet,

\$15.00

Two "Ugly Tuner" kits, with capacitors mounted on an L shaped open chassis (with knobs). A quality B&W inductor is included, with some standoffs for mounting. You provide the connectors, and you'll have a versatile pi-net tuner, capable of matching a wide range of loads. These aren't the most beautiful parts, but they will work well! One kit is better suited for low-band (160M) operation. Specify which one you want. Instruction sheet included. \$15.00 each.

Please include appropriate shipping.

Thanks, and Happy Holidays!

Paul, KB8N

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996

From: StevenS154@aol.com
Subject: [5474] Thanks:TS-50 Mod
Message-ID: <961202222152_773490750@emout04.mail.aol.com>

Many thanks to all who responded to my inquiry. I turned down the power from 50 to 2 watts and all works well. Now if I can just up my cw speed to work the next contest.....HMMMMMMMMM!

Thanks again guys, Steve WB0QQT

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Jerry Parker <jparker@fix.net>
Subject: [5489] The NorCal Page and the December Meeting
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19961203072549.00702ebc@fix.net>

I have posted the piece on the NorCal Meeting complete with
lots of pictures on the NorCal Page.

<http://www.fix.net/norcal.html>

Enjoy,,,72,,,Jerry...WA6OWR...K

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: km1h@juno.com
Subject: [5517] VFO capacitor F/S
Message-ID: <19961203.125754.9231.4.km1h@juno.com>

I have a real nice 100pf variable made by TRW.
It is in a standard BC style frame and 1 5/8" deep.
It is double spaced and the rotor plates are highly polished aluminum;
the stators polished copper. The dissimilar materials give a NPO
coefficient. It is simple enough to remove plates to obtain lower
maximum values.
It uses a gear drive; 2:1 ratio and anti-backlash gears. The shaft is
standard 1/4".

Ive been selling at fleamarkets for \$15. I will sell here for \$12 each or
3 for \$30. These are brand new and list for over \$65. I have a large
quantity available and could negotiate a nice deal for a large club or
dealer purchase. They would also make excellent caps for an ATU.

73.....Carl

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: torell@sicom.com (Kent Torell)
Subject: [5525] What recruited me to Ham Radio
Message-ID: <v02130501aeca305bca02@[192.91.202.41]>

Age: 41

I became interested through curiosity with my great-uncle's home-made radios from the 30's. I read an encyclopedia article about amateur radio, and building equipment. I sought out a ham in our small farm town, using the special call sign plates on his car, and asked if he would help me become a ham. This was in 1966, when I was 11. Upgraded to technician, and tried building some 6 meter tube stuff with little success. Quit hamming in late high school, and went to college. Always interested in designing/building radios...became an electrical engineer. My interest was re-kindled 2 years ago when I was introduced to this list. People were building radios, having fun operating, and encouraging one another! So, I re-learned the morse code, built a radio, got a license...

I think internet-based interest groups like ours will be a recruiting source, and certainly a means of keeping interest going among us. It's kept me going these last few years!

72, ab7oa

Kent Torell torell@sicom.com 602-483-2867 x230
SICOM 7585 E. Redfield, #202 Scottsdale, AZ 85260
AB70A qrp-1 57 ARCI 9075 DM33xn 33.55 N 111.078 W

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Ken Freedman <n1qqv@cshore.com>
Subject: [5541] Why Am I a Ham?
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960924222641.0068e44c@cshore.com>

Hi Gang,

I became a ham for two reasons. One, because it would allow me to meet people that I never would have met otherwise, and two because I like to know what makes things tick. As has already been pointed out, you can meet new people on any Internet chat node or IRC channel.

I didn't build the Net. I just pay for the equipment that lets me use it. I feel the same way about the telephone on my wall. It's a handy tool, but I have nothing of myself invested in it.

On the other hand, I have a lot of myself invested in Ham Radio. And in the process of studying, testing, building and operating I found something I didn't expect: Ham Radio is part science, part art and part magic. If you study the science, practice the art and feel the magic (you know who you are!) you're hooked. If you don't, then you'll be looking for some other diversion soon. This is neither good nor bad. The pendulum swings....

73, Ken

Ken Freedman
AKA: N1QQV/QRP

VE, EC Madison CT

Living Proof That, "You don't have to be a blonde to be light headed!"

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: David Adams <adamsclan@netgate.net>
Subject: [5536] Why Texas Can't win
Message-ID: <32A49C81.78AE@netgate.net>

Greetings! I've been off on a two week trek to Indiana, so I have no idea what the fox scores are, but I do know that Texas beat California.

I was driving home from Indiana on I-40. Weather was spotty but no big deal. Got through Oklahoma no prob...got a few miles into Texas and WHAM!!!!!! Six inches of ice on the freeway....with the help of the hams on the amarillo repeater, I managed to get my way-too-light car into town and snagged a hotel room (at least 4 other hams were brought into the same hotel that night...had dinner at Denny's with KA5JCA and wife). Left the next morning at about 10am with above freezing temps and STILL had six inches of ice on the road up to the New Mex border. Now...I'm not saying they ain't friendly...they were lifesavers (literally), but God has smote that state!!!!...big time...border to

border...yeesh...not a chance!

73 de dave, n9uxu

PS - What is this about AEA being gone?

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "Gary M. Diana Sr." <gmdsr@vivanet.com>
Subject: [5523] Yet Another Mint Box Enclosure
Message-ID: <199612031920.0AA19474@shell110.vivanet.com>

Hello All -

Saw a new type of mints in a sucrets-size container at the supermarket last evening:

"Storm Mint(tm)" Extra Strong Premium Mints

These are claimed to be made in Denmark (yeah, our friends in England claim to have never HEARD of Altoids!).

Same guage steel as the Altoids box, just a little smaller. Lakerol is the company that makes the mints.

73, Gary N2JGU
gmdsr@vivanet.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
Subject: [5503] Z-Match tuner
Message-ID: <199612031408.HAA28132@dancris.com>

Got the Z-match tuner from Roy yesterday, and put it together last night. Construction took about 3 hours, with time off to hunt for my step drill bit for the panel. Nice kit.

Only one torroid to wind, and it's large, but easy to do. There are a total of 27 turns in it, and it goes fast. All the components mount nicely on the metal plate, but the rub comes in when the wiring begins. Not hard, but needs some prior planning. I found it easiest to start with the connections closest to the panel and finish with those farthest out. Still pretty tight for the last connections to the torroid.

Fired up the OHR dual bander and checked the tuner out. It tunes the G5RV

down to about 1.1:1 or so. Not as good as my other tuners, but ok. Very sharp tuning. It did tune my attic mounted 40M dipole down to about the same, which my other tuner wouldn't (got to trim that dipole someday). Haven't tried it on the vertical yet, or on random wires.

The main reason I got it was to have a tuner to use with quick, expedient antennas. Might get a chance to try it out during the Christmas, AZ special event, which, BTW, will have a qrp segment on Friday eve, December 13, I believe. Maybe more on that from N7KT later.

So, I'm pleased with it. Might even put it in a different box along with some other stuff I have to try to make a universal selector/tuner/keyer setup to work with multiple rigs.

The Z-Match tuner is definitely back-packable, and should serve well.

Usual disclaimers, etc.

73,

Bob KI7MN

NorCal #1221 ARCI #8918 Qrp-1 #271 CQC #274 AK QRP #30 ARRL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996

From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>

Subject: [5494] Re: 67 feet of wire

Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.961203070409.16310A-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

Gary,

If the antenna provided a good match to the tube/vale rig, it should also load well with the Hands rig--provided. . .

. . .the TS 520 had a variable PI output network, which permitted it to load efficiently when the impedance presetned to the rig output was somewhat (but not grossly) off the optimal 50 ohms. Since you did not give any matching figures (impedance, SWR, etc.), the antenna might be right on for an optimal loading situation. However, it might be somewhat off. In the latter case, any of the simple CLC ATUs (commercial or home brew) would provide the match necessary. You can home brew a C-L-C for 80 for low power from parts obtained at the next hamfest or club meeting.

Good luck.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: wmcshan@REX.RE.uokhsc.edu (Mike McShan)
Subject: [5516] Re: AEA For Sale -- A. R. Newsline comments
Message-ID: <v01540b00aeca17d0e5a9@[157.142.56.166]>

> For manufacturers who specialize primarily in data based ham radio
>communications equipment the lack of interest by newcomers is bad news.
>For the ham radio supply business as a whole, means taking a long look
>inward to see if the industry itself can survive.
>
(snip)>
>End of Newsline excerpt.
>
>For what it's worth -- the packet network (such as it was) is all but dead
>here in Eastern Idaho. Outdated technology??
>
>72, Larry W1HUE/7

Two comments:

1. Better keep polishing our homebrew skills - we may be on our own someday!
2. For any technology to survive, it must grow and adapt - packet is basically stuck in the early 1980's (at least as far as data rate). High speed packet should be the norm now, but it just hasn't happened. Interestingly enough, CW is somewhat immune to this sort of technological obsolescence since it is partially an artform or skill (view it as you will). These qualities probably will ensure its popularity among the amateur ranks for the foreseeable future. To bad about AEA, however; they produced quality products.

Mike N5JKY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: lbbarley@feist.com (Bruce Barley)
Subject: [5521] Re: AEA For Sale -- A. R. Newsline comments
Message-ID: <199612031833.MAA00111@wichita.fn.net>

Via the Internet:

- a.) With a \$199 camera anyone (with no exam, no code) can exchange video communications world-wide w/o qrm,qrn,qsb, etc.
- b.) With a \$5 microphone anyone (with no exam, no code) can talk, sing, etc world wide w/o qrm, qrn, qsb, etc.
- c.) Our local independent service provider offers unlimited Internet access for \$19.95/mo.
He has over 450 phone lines up at all times.

Plus there is NO limitation on content. Good, bad, or otherwise. Any form of communications is possible on the same basic box that Johnny or Sally does their school homework. Voice, Text, Video, Graphics, Music. Have I missed anything? Data, Telemetry, pornography...

No need to worry about those #@#%)! restrictive covenants which preclude those ever-joyous challenges of getting an antenna up, and then getting it to work, once it is up.

Excluding the folks who have moved from CB to 2m FM on the local repeaters (with cell phone, no need to have the xyl get a ticket in order to communicate with her from the car, or other place away from the house. Besides, she's probably at work, anyway.) the only ones who seem to be moving into ham radio are those who are actually interested in electronic technology - and we know that with surface mount technology steadily replacing conventional (?) components, this is a field only for those with keen eyesight, nimble fingers, and the patience of Job.

Eliminate the no-code ticket holders, and then look at the average age of ham operators.

I don't consider myself a "doom and gloom" type of folk, but... Hey! I am really down when it comes to the subject of " HOW TO RECRUIT NEW HAMS". What has worked in your area? Has there been active recruiting of new hams by your club? How many from the last license class (still holding them?) are active in home brew rigs, kit rigs, or in CW? Please share your success (or lack of) stories with the rest of us on the list.

In the mean time, both my key and my soldering iron remain HOT!

Oh, yes. I'm 48 years old, with a wife and 3 kids. All of whom are active on the Internet, and none of whom have the least interest in ham radio.

Thanks.

Bruce Barley KB0PZD
lbbarley@feist.com

> But what about the pre-no-code hoopla about a data communications

>revolution in ham radio. The public relations campaign said there would be
>tens of thousands of computer literate people coming to ham radio to
>communicate by packet and other keyboard modes?

>

> Simply, this has not developed. Probably due to low cost access to the
>internet emerged at about the same time. Data oriented people have found
>the word wide web more to their liking. They already own a computer. They
>can communicate at 28 kilobaud instead of an agonizingly slow 1200 baud.
>There is a limitless choice of entertainment and information available.
>Most of all, there is no study, testing or license is required.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996

From: PChristensen@Continental.com

Subject: [5524] RE: AEA For Sale -- A. R. Newsline comments

Message-ID:

<c=US%a=_%p=Continental%l=SEEXCH01-961203192039Z-9297@neexch01.continental.com>

Before we postulate the demise of amateur radio, let me remind everyone that the same issues and concerns were present as far back as the early 1920s. I have saved several articles from the early issues of QST that predicted the eventual demise and elimination of CW when AM phone became a practicality during this era. When CW proved its superiority against spark transmissions, many hams during the early '20s left the hobby in droves. I have several classified ads from QST that are rather amusing when we consider the content some 75 years later.

Yes, it's a shame that A.E.A. is leaving the industry, but I haven't heard from a single person who has attributed this to other market-driven possibilities. Is it possible that A.E.A.'s management simply doesn't have the marketing savvy to compete and adapt? Something doesn't make sense: an American company like MFJ is flourishing, and yet we are told time and again that their products are inferior to that of companies like A.E.A. Is it possible that A.E.A. has hung it's hat on a single product line, namely the aged PK-232?

Quite honestly, there hasn't been a single product from A.E.A. that I would consider purchasing when I look at both American and non-American alternatives. I have always considered their TNCs to be much too large. In my case, I simply don't have the desktop space for any of their multimode TNCs.

On the other hand, and I hate to admit it, MFJ has a damn-good product line that offers good value. Additionally, MFJ has diversified beyond a

TNC core product line. Indeed, when mainstream packet speeds do not offer the user much beyond 1200 or 9600 baud, why should there be much interest? With the advent of cable modems and ISDN circuits to the home, why bother? In fact the only advantage packet has over other services is in it's ability to meet emergency preparedness demands and easy implementation of portable operation.

Amateur packet simply has not kept up with the rest of the world. We need to encourage the use of our threatened upper spectrum for the development of LAN speed transmission into the Internet and other amateur services.

>-Paul, W9AC

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: kb0rol@juno.com (Bradley L Mugleston)
Subject: [5490] Re: DX in the Novice Bands
Message-ID: <19961202.232320.6887.6.kb0rol@juno.com>

I want to thank all those who answered my question regarding DX in the Novice Bands.

Here are the basics.

Yes there is DX in the Novice Bands (just not normally in 40M Novice). 15M should be a good place to find DX so should 10M. I just need to remember that we are at the bottom of the cycle (tell that to Jim, KC1FB, in Connecticut who got a 339 from me in Colorado - Jim was running less than 1 watt).

What I need to do is upgrade - I know but I wanted WAS, QRP-QRP, Novice/Tech+. But I realized that I have never heard Hawaii or Alaska and with all the QRM/QRN I might have to wait a few years before I get them so I'm going to take my test next time I get the chance. Wish me luck.

BTW - have you heard, there's a FOX on 40M this Wednesday night (local) (0200 to 0400UTC at 7.112) that is worth 5 points and he really wants to talk to you. Give him a shot.

Thanks again for all the help.
de

Brad Mugleston - KB0ROL
Colorado QRP Club # 170, QRP-L #316, ARRL
QTH - Aurora, CO - DM79oq
KB0ROL@JUNO.COM
BMUG@GWL.COM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Dan Keen <70731.722@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [5491] Re: Eureka! LH & RH keying discovered
Message-ID: <961203073606_70731.722_EHM51-2@CompuServe.COM>

> If you have the greatest paddle, the V2L, you just swap
> rca connectors and your off with the other hand (in my
> case, way off!).
>

About 400 hundred NewZealand dollars for one of those, QSL? What I really
wanted to know is how much are NZ \$ in US \$?

Dan
70731.722@compuserve.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Art Searle <w2nra@netusa.net>
Subject: [5496] Re: Eureka! LH & RH keying discovered
Message-ID: <32A41AF8.486B@netusa.net>

Hi Dan,

Dan Keen wrote:

>
> > If you have the greatest paddle, the V2L, you just swap
> > rca connectors and your off with the other hand (in my
> > case, way off!).
> >
>
> About 400 hundred NewZealand dollars for one of those, QSL? What I really
> wanted to know is how much are NZ \$ in US \$?

Foreign Exchange Rates are available on the internet as is everything, I
say,
everything else. Currently about \$0.72 US equals \$1.00 New Zealand.

72, Art

--

Art Searle, W2NRA [ex WU2K], ARRL Life Member, QRP-L #524
QRP ARCI #9123, DXCC MX & CW HR, NRA Benefactor Life Member
NRA Certified Firearms Instructor, Fight for your rights!
Join the NRA now! <http://www.nra.org/membership/mmbrapp.html>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "Claton Cadmus" <aplitech@Spacestar.Net>
Subject: [5505] Re: G3TSO Transceiver
Message-ID: <199612031504.JAA03791@Spacestar.Net>

Hello Ken and all,

> In the latest edition of the RSGB Radio Communication Handbook (Very
> comprehensive and highly recommended), on page 7.41, is a construction
> article for an hf transceiver, all band,ssb/cw, 10-20W. It looks very
> interesting, but complicated.

This also appears in two parts in QEX/#90 August 1989 and QEX/#91 September 1989. Very interesting and good reading.

Claton Cadmus |73 de KA0GKC
Application Technologies Inc. |ARRL, QRP-ARCI, NorCal
Ph. (612)926-8886 |ARCC, MNQRP Society
Fax (612)926-8545 |ka0gkc@ka0gkc.ampr.org
E-mail cla@spacestar.net |ka0gkc@wb0gdb.#stp.mn.us

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: dwink@juno.com (Daniel C Winkler)
Subject: [5492] Re: Half wave antennas
Message-ID: <19961203.233708.4879.1.DWink@juno.com>

On Mon, 2 Dec 1996 20:02:46 -0600 launerb@crl.com (William H. Launer)
writes:

>qrp gang,
> Odd multiples of a 1/4 wave (i.e. 1/4, 3/4, etc) will
>exhibit impedance near 50 Ohms, especially when played against a like
>counterpoise. A 65 ft. end-fed wire is great for 80 meters. . .

No. Impedance goes up as wire gets (electrically) longer.
Example, 68.4 feet of #16 copper wire in free space is resonant at and
has impedances of:

7.0 MHz 73.9 ohms
21.3316 MHz 109.6 ohms
35.685 MHz 128.8 ohms

A "65 ft. end-fed wire" is one leg of a resonant dipole on 80 meters. Your "like counterpoise" is the other leg. It is a resonant dipole. EZNEC says 58.5 ohms at 3.66 MHz, with counterpoise running 5ft above ground and the end of the other leg 35 ft up.

By the way. Re: slinkys. Steel has 7 to 12 times the resistance of copper. It is also magnetic. Would you use a steel core or steel wire for your final tank? Use copper wire for antennas, or find someone to copper plate one of those plastic slinkys for you. Mind you, any conductor will radiate if you squirt enough rf into it. Dummy loads, trees, shopping carts (read Sturba's "Aerials II".) But for the QRP crowd, why not put your rf into a resonant dipole , turn your rig down to 10 mw and get credit for your achievement!

; D Dan Winkler N7IVR DWink@Juno.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Tim Gordish <105020.2634@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [5470] Re> Half wave antennas and the Rainbow
Message-ID: <199611301054_MC1-C86-39BD@compuserve.com>

QRP Dudes,

This half wave antenna sounds very easy to construct, and very compact. The only disadvantage seems to be the necessary tuner. It seems that all QRP rigs require a 50 ohm match. Isn't this 50 ohm impedance pretty much an arbitrary convention? What about designing the rig for use only with this higher impedance antenna? This is just a question from an inquiring mind wanting to know.

72 de Tim
KB9LGJ
ScQRPion NorCal QRP-L IDEA ARRL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: launerb@crl.com (William H. Launer)
Subject: [5473] Re: Half wave antennas and the Rainbow
Message-ID: <v01530502aec93924b90d@[192.0.2.1]>

qrp gang,

Odd multiples of a 1/4 wave (i.e. 1/4, 3/4, etc) will

exhibit impedance near 50 Ohms, especially when played against a like counterpoise. A 65 ft. end-fed wire is great for 80 meters, requires no coax, and only requires one support (easier for the "sling-shot impaired").

72/73, Bill wb0cld

Bill Launer
St. Charles, MO
launerb@crl.com
wb0cld@wb0cld.ampr.org [44.46.66.25]
qrp-l #279 qrp arco #3551
Grid Square EM48RT

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: lbbarley@feist.com (Bruce Barley)
Subject: [5522] Re: IRC Channel
Message-ID: <199612031840.MAA01169@wichita.fn.net>

Look at the benefits...

NO QSB, QRM, QRN... the band is always open, worldwide!

Bruce Barley KB0PZD
lbbarley@feist.com

>You guys want an IRC channel for QRP? What's wrong with 7.040?
>
>C'mon, get a grip!
>
>72/3, Mike KI6PR
>El Rancho R.F, CA
>
>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: km1h@juno.com
Subject: [5486] Re: Linears
Message-ID: <19961202.211930.7311.29.km1h@juno.com>

AND life (or band openings)are toooooooooooooooooo short for QRP at times.
Make the best use of what you have and when you need it. Not all QRPers
are total nerds....some of us have a real life and families to attend to,
and even run QRO at times. Plus this is just a hobby after all.

73.....Carl KM1H

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [5495] Re: Linears
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.961203071636.16310D-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

>
> Just wondering here if QRP is a noun?
>
Dan

QRP is actually a request: please lower power. QRP? = Shall I lower
power? (All of us, of course, answer with "QRP" or simply "YES!")

But, like QRX, QSY, and QSL, these Q-signals have taken on a life of
their own and can be used as verbs, adjectives, adverbs, nouns, swear
words, and exclamations of high praise.

If AOK can make Webster's dictionary, then whatever its origin, QRP can
be all these things--including for many, a way of life.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: PaulKB8N@aol.com
Subject: [5501] Re: Linears
Message-ID: <961203084706_1617464705@emout10.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-12-03 00:52:03 EST, km1h@juno.com writes:

<<

AND life (or band openings)are toooooooooooooooooo short for QRP at times.
Make the best use of what you have and when you need it. Not all QRPers

are total nerds....some of us have a real life and families to attend to, and even run QRO at times. Plus this is just a hobby after all.

>>

As a fellow contester, I agree, Carl. We need to encourage the use of low power, improve the efficiency of our equipment and antennas, and use a power level that enables us to enjoy the hobby. I believe, though, as DSP technology improves, that we will ALL eventually be able to secure reliable communications with greatly reduced power levels.

72/3, Paul

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "Mike Siegel" <ki6pr@msn.com>
Subject: [5513] RE: Linears
Message-ID: <UPMAIL05.199612031708150859@msn.com>

> And please, don't forget..."Linear is an adjective; amplifier is a
> noun."...

>

> 72/3, Mike KI6PR

> El Rancho R.F., CA

>Just wondering here if QRP is a noun?

>Dan

NO!! QRP is a way of life!

-Mike

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Dan Keen <70731.722@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [5534] Re: Linears
Message-ID: <961203205714_70731.722_EHM73-1@CompuServe.COM>

> But, like QRX, QSY, and QSL, these Q-signals have taken on a life of
> their own and can be used as verbs, adjectives, adverbs, nouns, swear
> words, and exclamations of high praise.

So, going back to the original context, perhaps a somewhat similar kind of thing might be said regarding which part of speech _linear_ belongs to.

Dan

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: gage@freedom.cs.trw.com (Phil Gage)
Subject: [5512] Re: not DX, but very fun!
Message-ID: <9612031535.AA06863@freedom.cs.TRW.COM>

> > His rig was called the "Spider JR", he said it was in the Nov, 1994 issue
> > of QST and that it came from a kit. Does anybody recall this one, it sure
> > sounded great on the air. I would like to try this one out. I wonder who
> > made the kit?

>

>Lektrokit 401 W. Borgrad Rd Sandusky Ohio 44870 Used to cost 12 bucks for
>board and plans, 30 bucks board and onboard parts, 40 complete kit, 60
>assembled/tested complete.

November 96 CQ page 123 has an ad for this 40/80M 1W QRP transceiver, \$21
postpaid for PCB, instructions and "uncommon" components only. Included
is varactor, mixer IC, RF transformers, toroid cores, etc. You supply
the resistors, capacitors, crystal, etc. It has a direct-conversion
receiver, crystal-controlled transmitter, QSK, RIT and sidetone. The
correct address is Lektrokit, 401 W Bogart, Sandusky OH 44870.

Phil Gage
gage@freedom.cs.trw.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: KFGlynn@aol.com
Subject: [5508] Re: Novice 90 Antenna
Message-ID: <961203110216_1085293340@emout04.mail.aol.com>

Hi Allen,

Sounds like the W3EDP (call correct?) wire ant in Brittish ant book I have at
home. Is 85' wire with 17' counterpoise. I've used this while in Jersey
Shore over summer from third floor of beach house. Worked station near
Paris, France for 30 mins on 30M, solid copy both ways and all over the US on
40M and 30M. I know Bob AE4IC uses this ant, too.

72 Kevin N2TO

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Joe Everhart <n2cx@voicenet.com>
Subject: [5477] Re: Re> Half wave antennas and the Rainbow
Message-ID: <199612030402.XAA01600@mail3.voicenet.com>

At 10:54 AM 11/30/96 -0500, you wrote:

>QRP Dudes,
>
>This half wave antenna sounds very easy to construct, and very compact.
>The only disadvantage seems to be the necessary tuner. It seems that all
>QRP rigs require a 50 ohm match. Isn't this 50 ohm impedance pretty much
>an arbitrary convention? What about designing the rig for use only with
>this higher impedance antenna? This is just a question from an inquiring
>mind wanting to know.
>
>72 de Tim
>KB9LGJ
>ScQRPion NorCal QRP-L IDEA ARRL
>
>

Tim,

Yes, certainly you can design a rig to match the half wave antenna directly!
But the devil is in the details. I don't want to re-start a big thread here,
but from my viewpoint, it might be more difficult to properly tune up such a
rig. The *best* way would probably be to tune for maximum transmitted field,
but the field should be measured at a distance, which introduces some
complications.

My first Novice rig back in the early 60's had a 50 ohm output, but I used a
simple L-network tuner to match to a half-wave wire. I didn't have an SWR
bridge, so I just used a neon bulb looped over the end of the wire at the tuner.
My whopping 20 watts lit it pretty brightly when all was tuned properly.
I'm not sure that 5 watts would do as well...

The 50 ohms figure is not entirely arbitrary (there have been threads on this),
but it is often convenient both for ease of manufacture of relatively low-loss
and easy to handle feedline, and for making easy measurements of both power and
matching (via SWR).

Indeed, in the context I mentioned, the tuner is fairly lightweight and simple
to use and doesn't force you to redesign your rig.

Go for it if you want to make a rig that matching high impedance directly!
Just be sure you come up with an easy way to tell when it is truly matched

to the antenna! And, of xourse, share it with the qrp community :-)

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

work: jeverhart@cayman.vf.mmc.com
home: n2cx@voicenet.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [5498] Re: Re> Half wave antennas and the Rainbow
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.961203072638.16310E-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

Tim,

Good question, but unfortunately, high impedance antennas, like end feds, do not all exhibit the same high impedance. The impedance at the end of the antenna may run from several hundreds of ohms to several thousand, and it may have either capacitive or inductive reactance in generous quantities.

Obviously, it would be somewhat difficult to design an output circuit that could cover all this territory and have the desired filtering characteristics as well. However, a simple L-circuit with a series L and an output parallel C will match 50 ohms from the transmitter to a high-Z with pretty fair ease. Hence, the use of a tuner. No reason that one cannot be designed into a rig case to get rid of the connectors and cable, although this is usually not done, since the L-circuit described is not good for impedances below 50 ohms (usually need to reverse the position of the capacitor--which can be done with a switch).

So if you build kits, you may want to consider omitting the case and fitting the transceiver board and an ATU into one case--along with a simple RF bridge circuit to set the ATU for the best match. What you get will be very close to what designers would have to do to directly move their output filters up to the high Z anyway.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Patrick Taber <ptaber@logicraft.com>
Subject: [5527] Re: Shorthand
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961203201421.0099cfc8@freebird>

At 02:56 PM 12/3/96 EST, you wrote:

>Anybody have any opinion on whether it would be worthwhile to go to
>night school for a semester and learn shorthand? In order to speed up copying
>away from a mill...

Shorthand is a kind of phonetic writing. I think it would slow down your copy as you translated from characters to words to sounds and then to shorthand. Better to learn script writing or just make notations of the important points during "head copy."

>>>==>PStJTT

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "'AB7HI' Stephen Lee" <slee@u.washington.edu>
Subject: [5519] Re: Spartan Sprint
Message-ID: <Pine.A41.3.95b.961203093527.58240A-100000@homer10.u.washington.edu>

Other than the fact the 40 meter band was extremely noisy, propagation from Tacoma, WA, was as dismal as it has been most of this year. CQ's went out, nothing returned.

I relented on the Spartan Sprint and commenced to install a 500HZ CW filter in my Drake TR7 to complement the narrow 300HZ CW filter. Finished the installation in an hour and listened to the band for a few more hours. Finally around 07:30 UTC the band started to open and I had a nice contact (QSB ridden) with Kim, AB7JK over in Wichita, KA. We both started out at 5 watts then Kim went to 10 watts power but that didn't improve the situation. My RST was given as 229 (!) and I sent an RST of 339 to Kim. At times Kim said my RST was 579 to which I replied: rr Kim, u too, or code to that effect, hi hi. Eventually we gave in to the QSB.

Don't think I've had a Spartan Sprint contact all year :|
73 and cul,
Stephen Lee, AB7HI
slee@u.washington.edu

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "Dean Marzocca" <n2tnn@ifu.net>
Subject: [5481] Re: Spartan Sprint?
Message-ID: <199612030445.XAA22564@mail.ifu.net>

Bill,

Same thing up here in NJ. I heard a few stations but no answer. I did catch KS4L in AL but that is all I have to show for 2 hours. Band was quiet on 80 which means the BAND was BAAAA!!!. Guess we have to wait till next month

We tried....

Dean, N2TNN

> From: Bill Myers <bmyers@destin.nfds.net>
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
> Subject: Spartan Sprint?
> Date: Tuesday, December 03, 1996 12:20 AM
>
> Hi Gang,
>
> Was it just my area with the noise?
>
> I spent the afternoon making a couple of mods to the
49'er, adding some
> connectors, and checking out the SLV. Checked out the
HW-8 also, just in
> case. Even bought a new Lithium for the 49'er.
>
> The band sounded okay around 0100Z, some good signals and
a little noise,
> just enough to move the s-meter on the Icom 735 with the
dipole. Sat down
> with the wife and rested for a short time and then went
outside and set up
> the rigs and SLV. 0230Z rolled around and I heard one
station calling on
> 40, around 7044, and they were calling CQ about 5 times,
their call 3 times,
> CQ 5 times, etc. Even I kinda figured they weren't
playing. Didn't hear
> anything else. Set up the HW-8 and checked out 3560,
lots of static and a
> couple of really weak signals. Even brought out the RS

DSP, no good either.

>
> About 0300Z decided to come back in the house and use the
Icom and dipole,
> figuring it was the DC receivers causing the noise. Same
thing in there,
> lots of static and very few signals. Noise level was
about a S-6 on 40 and
> slightly higher on 80.
>
> Guess it just wasn't my night. I'll have to settle for
the fox tomorrow.
>
> Hope all did better than I did, no contacts...
>
> 72/73
>
> --
> Bill Myers KK4KF
> FISTS#2390 QRP-L#755 ARCI#9282 scQRP#42 CQC#386
> Grid EM60rk (Shalimar, FL 32579)
> Snail Mail P. O. Box 178
> e-mail <bmyers@destin.nfds.net>
> homepage <http://destin.nfds.net/~bmyers/>
> (Reptiles/Emergency Services/Amateur Radio)
> CHECK OUT THE FISTS INTERNATIONAL CW CLUB U. S. HOMEPAGE
> <http://n9nvv.qrp.com/~fists>
> ^^^^^ That's N 9 N V V
>
>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: WJ4PRandy@aol.com
Subject: [5509] Re: Spartan Sprint?
Message-ID: <961203111117_1353535242@emout05.mail.aol.com>

No, Bill it wasnt you...

I think i jinxed the whole operation for everyone by
coming home for lunch and re-feeding my off-center
fed dipole with 450 twin lead. It all checked out great
and I was looking forward for a good time when the
Gods decided "NO PROP"!!

I heard two stations all night - K10J who was out of my
transmitting freq range (I was using the 40-9er) and
one other I can't remember but I didnt work either one.
Not one contact in two solid hours of operating!!!

I even fired up the Paragon and cruised 80 mtrs and
40 both to no avail...
Hey, guess this is waht makes this hobby interesting?...
73, Randy WJ4P

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Bill Myers <bmyers@destin.nfds.net>
Subject: [5507] Re: The NorCal Page and the December Meeting
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19961203094808.1ddf3d1e@destin.nfds.net>

At 11:25 PM 12/2/96 -0800, Jerry Parker wrote:
>I have posted the piece on the NorCal Meeting complete with
>
>lots of pictures on the NorCal Page.

And again an excellent job!

Really gotta get to Calif for one of these meetings...

72/73

--
Bill Myers KK4KF
FISTS#2390 QRP-L#755 ARCI#9282 scQRP#42 CQC#386
Grid EM60rk (Shalimar, FL 32579)
Snail Mail P. O. Box 178
e-mail <bmyers@destin.nfds.net>
homepage <http://destin.nfds.net/~bmyers/>
(Reptiles/Emergency Services/Amateur Radio)
CHECK OUT THE FISTS INTERNATIONAL CW CLUB U. S. HOMEPAGE
<http://n9nvv.qrp.com/~fists>
^^^^ That's N 9 N V V

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "Floyd Soo, W8RO" <hires@rust.net>
Subject: [5488] Re: Wanted: Address/phone # of Wire Works
Message-ID: <32A3F117.345A@rust.net>

W. Dennis Zeares wrote:
>
> I "need" to buy some of that 26 gauge, varifles, strong
> steath wire for "experimenting"....

>
> So if anyone has the source please let me know.
>
> The address/phone # etc of wire works would be helpful to everyone
> on the list.
>
> TNX, 72/73 Dennis K3ETS, Dallas, Home of K5FO

If you are looking for the "Radio Works", here is their address and phone number:

The Radio Works
P.O. Box 6159
Portsmouth, VA 23703
(804) 484-0140

They have a good selection of wire for stealth antennas. Seems to me I have seen a 800 number for orders in a QST ad.

Usual disclaimers apply...

--

72,
Floyd Soo, W8RO (ex KF8AT)
President, HI-RES Communications, Inc.
Net Manager and Board Member, Collins Collectors Association
QRP-L #392
hires@rust.net
<http://www.rust.net/~hires>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Dale Anderson <dalea@artemis.fc.hp.com>
Subject: [5535] Re: What recruited me to Ham Radio
Message-ID: <9612032123.AA11675@artemis.fc.hp.com>

Ok, I'll chime in too... All flames >> /dev/null...

Age 35 (just last week)

My Dad, K1EYB, was (still is) a ham when I was a kid. I can recall him talking all over the Western Hemisphere on 6m using his "Globe Scout" (TVI generator). He used a Drake 2B & 2BQ matched set with a converter for his RX. In 1964, when I was only 3 years old, he built me a replica of his Globe Scout.

He had it professionally painted and lettered by some friends in the sign business. It looked REAL with knobs and working meter. Get this, he even built-in a QRP mW AM BC band 2-tube (35W4 & 50B5) transmitter in it, so when I spoke into the mic during TX, the neighbors could've heard me! It also had a key that would light the TX light on keydown. I've been into electronics since then. Blew my first circuit breaker in the house at age 4, and lived to tell this story!

When I was 9, Dad bought me a National NC173 receiver w/speaker for \$20 from a yardsale across the street. I still use it from time to time. That radio gave me my first real exposure to HF and ham radio. I scanned the bands for hours. Spent late nights and rainy days trying to hear the weak ones, wondering where they were calling from. There was something magical about the experience. I wanted to become a ham then, but thought the theory and code would be too hard.

Years passed, my interest in listening to the bands would wax and wane. Eventually moved out but took the boatanchor with me. During the Gulf War, I listened to Saudi SW stations to keep up to date without the US TV Network Filtering. Dusting off the ole rig after a few years of silence rekindled my interest in radio. It wasn't until I moved to Colorado that I thought, "hey, if I get my ticket, maybe I can attempt a QSO with Dad...". I eventually met up with lots of hams in the local community. Also discovered QRP-L. Spent months reading EVERY post, being Elmer'd by those of you who never knew it. I then went out and bought the books, made a few CW tapes on the computer, practiced, practiced, practiced, and January of this year, at age 34, got my first license (Tech+). In August, passed the General AND 20wpm, and in Oct attempted to upgrade again, but the building was on fire (no joke!) so the exams were obviously canceled. Intend to make Extra soon.

Unlike the typical new ham as depicted in the AEA article, I did my part to support the industry by going out and dropping big \$\$\$ on brand new HF equipment. And, given my QRP interest I'm not done yet! Also bought a VHF/UHF radio, but I only use it occasionally to check into the CQC net and take part in the SKYWARN nets, but NEVER to ragchew. Not challenging or interesting enough for me.

Like Kent, I give a lot of credit to this group and its members for recruiting the likes of me and others. Maybe the Internet DOES have a place in HAM radio and we found it here with QRP-L.

72 es thanks,
de Dale KB0VCC
QRP-L #91 / CQC #251

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: Patrick Taber <ptaber@logiccraft.com>
Subject: [5537] Re: What recruited me to Ham Radio
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961203213609.009b34a8@freebird>

> I'm not done yet! Also bought a VHF/UHF radio, but I only use
> it occasionally to check into the CQC net and take part in the
> SKYWARN nets, but NEVER to ragchew. Not challenging or
> interesting enough for me.

Don't disprove one cliché by throwing out another... There's more to V/UHF
than FM and repeaters. SSB and CW are just as much fun as on HF only the
contests are more polite!

>>>==>PStJTT

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Dec 3 18:02:35 1996
From: "Michael A. Gipe" <mgipe@reliablemeters.com>
Subject: [5539] Re: Why Texas Can't win
Message-ID: <199612032309.RAA00898@multi13.netcomi.com>

This explains why there are so many monster antenna farms in Texas. They
have ideal antenna erecting weather.

This still doesn't explain the uncharacteristic imbalance in TX/CA scores.
Perhaps a special arrangement was made with a well-known unsavory
character? hmmm?

Perhaps there is truth to the rumor that AEA was about to move the
operation to Texas, maybe into the old Tucker Radio building.

Welcome back, Dave.

Mike K1MG

> ...got a few miles into Texas and
> WHAM!!!!!! Six inches of ice on the freeway....with the help of the

> hams on the amarillo repeater, I managed to get my way-too-light car
> into town and snagged a hotel room (at least 4 other hams were brought
> into the same hotel that night...had dinner at Denny's with KA5JCA and
> wife). ...
> Now...I'm not saying they ain't friendly...they were lifesavers
> (literally), but God has smote that state!!!...big time...border to
> border...yeesh...not a chance!
>
> 73 de dave, n9uxu
>
> PS - What is this about AEA being gone?